

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7307

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 10087

FOR THE SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: BIOGRAPHIC SKETCHES FOR MRS. KISSINGER'S TRAVEL

REF: STATE 231691

1. NUSRAT ISPAHANI BHUTTO, WIFE OF THE PRIME MINISTER SINCE 1951, IS AN ATTRACTIVE AND VIVACIOUS WOMAN WHO COMES FROM A WEALTHY IRANIAN BUSINESS FAMILY. SHE HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD EXTENSIVELY ACCOMPANYING HER HUSBAND AND MAKING SOLO GOODWILL VISITS. SHE LED PAKISTAN'S DELEGATION AND IS CURRENTLY AT THE GENEVA MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON THE FINANCING OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS IN HER CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PAKISTAN RED CRESCENT. MRS. BHUTTO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE WOMEN'S BRANCH OF THE PAKISTAN PEOPLES' PARTY AND HAS MADE EXTENSIVE PUBLIC SPEAKING TOURS, A ROLE WHICH WE UNDERSTAND SHE DOES NOT ENJOY. OF THEIR CHILDREN, GHULAM MURTAZA (19) IS AT HARVARD; BENAZIR "PINKY" (21) IS AT OXFORD AFTER GRADUATING FROM RADCLIFF WHERE SAHAM SEMA "SONNI" IS CURRENTLY A FRESHMAN. YOUNGEST SON SHAHNAWAZ (15) ATTENDS THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN ISLAMABAD.

2. THE WIFE OF AZIZ AHMED IS NEVER SEEN PUBLICLY AND WILL NOT BE MEETING MRS. KISSINGER. AS THE RESULT OF AN ATTACK OF MENINGITIS, SHE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DEAF FOR MANY YEARS.

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IN HER LATE SIXTIES, MRS. AHMED COMES FROM MADRAS, AS DOES

HER HUSBAND.

3. PRESIDENT CHAUDHRY IS A WIDOWER AND HAS NOT HAD ANY LADY FAMILY MEMBER ACTING AS HTEFOR HIM SINCE HE TOOK OFFICE. THE PRESIDENT IS IN KARACHI. HE PLANS TO RETURN SHORTLY AND WE WILL CHECK WITH HIS OFFICE AT THAT TIME TO LEARN IF SOME ONE IN HIS SUITE (SUCH AS HIS RECENT- LY MARRIED DAUGHTER-IN-LAW) WILL BE MEETING MRS. KISSINGER.

4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT MRS. KISSINGER MAY MEET THE WIFE OF GOP MINISTER KHURSHID HASAN MEER (WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN THE FIRST BHUTTO CABINET, NEWLY APPOINTED TO LABOR, HEALTH, SOCIAL WELFARE AND FAMILY PLANNING). MRS. IFFAT MEER IS IN HER MID-30S, COMES FROM JAMMU IN INDIAN-HELD KASHMIR, AND CURENTLY TEACHES AT A GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL. WITH AN EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND IN SOCIAL WELFARE, SHE HAS BECOME IN RECENT YEARS AN ACCOMPLISHED PUBLIC SPEAKER, OFTEN STANDING IN ON PUBLIC OCCASIONS FOR HER HUSBAND. (HE IS NOW IN MOSCOW WITH THE BHUTTO PARTY.) SHE IS CONSIDERED AFFABLE, BRIGHT, AND ARTICULATE, ALTHOUGH NOT SOPHISTICATED, ABLE TO SPEAK GOOD, CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH. BYROADE

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